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NORFOLK, VA
VIRGINIAN-PILOT

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STATINTL



Adm. Wright

Wright Envoy To China

CPYRGHT

NORFOLK -- Adm. Jerauld Wright, an honorary citizen of Norfolk since 1937, will replace Adm. Alan G. Kirk as ambassador to Nationalist China.

Wright, 64, retired from the Navy March 1, 1960, after an unprecedented six years as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, while holding the dual U.S. Atlantic and U.S. Atlantic Fleet commands, with headquarters here.

Kirk, 73, has been in ill health. He has been ambassador since last May.

Wright was recalled to duty in January 1961 to serve on the Board of National Estimates for the Central Intelligence Agency and has continued in that position since.

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HIGH LEVEL

The board is a high-level advisory group for CIA. Its members are military and civilian experts who evaluate intelligence estimates of nations of the world, including the United States.

Before Wright retired it had been rumored he may be named ambassador to one of the NATO nations.

Wright discounted these claims with the question: "Where would I get the money for that kind of job?"

Norfolk City Council made Wright an honorary citizen in 1957.

The admiral has had extensive experience in amphibious warfare operations.

It is believed that this background may be useful in helping to restrain the more extreme ambitions of the Nationalist Chinese leader, Chiang Kai-shek, and some of his officials for military expeditions to the Chinese mainland.

FEAR MISJUDGMENT

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The U.S. government has feared that miscalculation in this respect might set off hostilities which would involve this country.

Wright has demonstrated an ability to cope with international political and military problems since 1942.

This phase of his career started when he joined the staff of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in London and helped plan Operation Torch, the invasion of North Africa.

Wright was involved in the famous cloak-and-dagger submarine attack on North Africa in advance of the attack. Gen. Mark W. Clark headed the group.

The admiral later commanded the British submarine Scaph and directed the evacuation of French Gen. Henri Giraud from Southern France. He received the Distinguished Service Medal for this.

Wright continued to serve with the Allied staffs in the Mediter-

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